

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LISBON 02259 211734Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 MCT-01 IO-03 PM-03

SP-02 L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SSO-00 /047 W

-----211741Z 026582 /41

O R 211656Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0631

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

S E C R E T LISBON 2259

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT MILI AO

SUBJECT: FLEC CLAIMS NGOUABI ASSASSINATION

REF: LISBON 1866 (NOTAL)

1. IN A MAR 21 MEETING WITH EMBOFFS, CABINDA LIBERATION FRONT (FLEC) REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS LUIS PUNA STATED THAT FLEC WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAR 19 ASSASSINATION OF CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE PRESIDENT MARIEN NGOUABI. FLEC HAS NOT PUBLICLY CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY, SAID PUNA, BECAUSE THE WELL-KNOWN TIES BETWEEN FLEC AND ZAIRE COULD LEAD THE CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE GOVERNMENT TO BLAME ZAIRE AS THE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE PARTY. THIS COULD PRECIPITATE OPEN WARFARE BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO PUNA, THE ASSASSINATION WAS CONDUCTED BY CABINDAN NATIONALS, OF THE MANY WHO ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY. CABINDA ARMED FORCES (FAC) "GENERAL" DA COSTA, WHO SERVED WITH THE FRENCH COLONIAL ARMY

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IN BRAZZAVILLE AND IS FAMILIAR WITH THE TERRAIN, HELPED ELABORATE THE PLAN.

3. THIS ASSASSINATION, CLAIMED PUNA, SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISHED ONE-HALF OF FLEC "COBRA 77" PLAN. THE OTHER HALF CONSISTS OF THE ASSASSINATION OF ANGOLAN PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO AND POLITICAL BUREAU CHIEF

LUCIO LARA. FLEC MEN, SAID PUNA, ARE ALREADY IN  
PLACE.

4. IN LEAVING, PUNA STRESSED AGAIN THE NEED FOR A  
PROMPT REPLY TO HIS PREVIOUS REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH  
GULF OFFICIALS (REFTEL.  
CARLUCCI

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, CHIEF OF STATE, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X4  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FLEC CLAIMS NGOUABI ASSASSINATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, MILI, AO, CF, FLEC, (NGOUABI, MARIEN)  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009